## NEWS FROM THE SOUTH.

Return of a New York Merchant from Richmond.

NEWS FROM PORT ROYAL

Price Not Superseded in Missouri.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE REBEL CONGRESS.

"Admission" of Kentucky Into the Southern Confederacy.

Important from the Seat of War in Missouri and Kentucky.

The Proposed Dismemberment of Virginia.

The Question of Consular Exemption from Military Duty.

INDIGNANT LETTER FROM MRS. GREENHOW,

&c.,

NEWS FROM RICHMOND.

NEWS FROM RICHMOND.

ARRIVAL OF A NEW YORK MERCHANT, LATELY A PRISONER AT RICHMOND—NARRATIVE OF AFFAIRS IN EASTERN VIRGINIA—GENERAL SUSPENSION OF BUSINESS—HOFES THAT THE NORTH WILL BE INVOLVED IN WAR WITH ENGLAND OR FRANCE—TREATMENT OF THE UNION PRISONERS, ETC. A gentleman, who for some years was the head of a respeciable from 10 Pearls treat in the city who introduced the control of the contr

speciable firm in Pearl street, in this city, has just returned from Richmond, where he has been a prisoner for the last three months. Before the war-broke out he was interested in some of the oil springs of Virginia; and, when the neighborhood in which he was engaged in his busi, ness became the seat of hostilities, he was unable to return to the North, and was at last captured by the rebels and sent to Richmond. During the last month of his cap tivity he occupied the same room with Mr. Huribut, recently one of the editors of the New York Times. This gentleman, it was reported, had been sent to South Caro. lina—his native State—but this rumor was untrue, and he still remains a prisoner at Richmond.

A very excited state of feeling, says our informant, prevails in Eastern Virginia, and especially at Richmond Those who were formerly Union men are now universally "secesh," and many of them are very bitter in their ex-pressions of haired towards the North. Among the people generally an intense animosity against the Yankees has prevailed; and since the capture of Mason and Sidell their violence has known no bounds. The most horrid threats are daily uttered against Northern prisoners; and, should the rebel Commissioners be hung, it is affirmed that fifty of the Yankees shall be executed with the most ignominious publicity. All thought of ever submitting to be united in any way with the North seems to have vanished. The unanimity of the people is, to all appearance, unbroken; and either in principle, or from fear of punishment, or from the belief that confiscation and abotion are the Northern watchwords, all the people in Virginia, so far as our informant could learn, were united as one man to gain their independence or perish in the

Every branch of commerce and trade which was not connected with the demands of the war is suspended, and all available men are pressed into the army. Ruin has aiready overtaken thousands of persons formerly in com-fortable circumstances. None of the privations and losses however, which are incident to this state of things, exert

any perceptible influence on public opinion. There is a general boasting confidence expressed in the ability of the South to "keep the invaders at bay."

It is confidently predicted that before next spring ome European trouble will arise to complicate the relations existing between the United States and either England or France; and until spring the Confederates be lieve that no active operations will be practicable; for their roads are very bad, and there is no continual frost to keep them hard and firm. On the contrary, the weather is almost always soft, and frequent heavy rains keep the roads in a state more fit for icthyosauri than for horses. The invasion of the South, they suppose, must be made, if at all, by land over the deep limestone mud in Western Virginia or Kentucky, or the bottomless foams of the Mississippi Valley. And in no parts of those re gious of country are the roads passable in rainy weather after the wagons and artillery of a single brigade have gone over them. It is the common boast at Richmond that, as the Yankees have nowhere penetrated twenty five into the South during the eight months of dry weather, when the roads are good, they cannot hope to do

better during the season of rains and mud, when the highways are absolutely impassable.

Another thing which the rebels rely on to prevent invasion is the noxious climate of the South during winter. They suppose that the health of the Northern troops cannot but be more impaired by the sudden extreme and frequent changes of temperature, the great fall of rain, and the almost constant dampness, than by the pestilental induces of the four months of summer. A winter campaign, they say, would be much more practicable at the North than at the South. For although the Northern reads are indifferent, yet the continual frost of winter makes them as firm as the solid rock; the winter, though cold, is continuous, and the drynness of the atmosphere is favorable to health. Continuous ice and frost are not only more propitious to the vigor and martial qualities of the soldiers, but offer more faculties for transportation than alternate rains, snows, freezings and thaws. Invasion of the North, then, they say, would be in winter a much more feasible undertaking than an lawasion of the South, and word be rendered more so by the more dense population and the more general distribution of food and supplies over the whole surface of the country, they argue that the agricultural industry of the South is employed in the production of food and supplies over the whole surface of the country, they argue that the agricultural industry of the South is employed in the production of food and robacco employ two thirds of their labor. Cases are rare in which planters raise more than their own consumption of food, except in districts unsuited to the growth of to-bacco and cotten. To invade the South, then, is not to overrun a rich country, dotted all over with magazines of provisions. The invading forces must bring along and carry with them their entire supplies, both for fations and forcary, or they must operate from bases of operations established either on the coast or on the eastern bank of the Mississippi. Under an outside appearance of co

highways are absolutely impassable.

## NEWSPAPER ACCOUNTS. We are in receipt of Southern papers to the 11th inst.

from which we give the following extracts. LATE FROM PORT ROYAL.

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[From the Charleston Courier, Dec. 9.]

We learn from a friend that on Wednesday night a mounted detachment of the Beaufort artillery, under their captain, amounting to twenty two men, passed over to the island, visited Beaufort, whose after desolation and abundonment was relieved only by the presence of one light and the barking of a dog. There were no signs of the enemy, either on land or water. Our men then proceeded to the work of destruction.

The chief object of the expedition was to destroy the cops of cotton and provisions on Paris Island, which

The chief object of the expedition was to destroy the crops of cotton and provisions on Paris Island, which being near the enemy was crowded by the negroes who had flocked there to escape from the control of their enters. Owing to the absence of boats, this object was but partially effected. A cance, holding three men, passed over from the battery, and soon consigned to the fames, on Dr. Thomas Poller's plantation, seventy bales of cotton and seven hundred bushels of corn.

Returning to the battery plantation, the work was resumed, and the torch successively applied to the cotton of twelva other plantations, while the contents of five barns were suspited by the negroes and consumed on the ground. Seventeen crops, amounting to nearly four hundred baits, were thus effectually removed from the fangs of the destroyer. The portions of the island most exposed are safe. The remainder can easily be secured—perbags is already beyond their reach, as two distinct parties went over on Saturday night, and a large fire was visible near midnight.

THE REBEL GENERAL PRICE NOT SUPER-

THE REBEL GENERAL PRICE NOT SUPERSEDED,
[From the Richmond Dispatch, Dec. III.]
Speculation is again on foot on the subject of the
removed appointment of a General to rank Price and
McCulloch for the District of Missouri and Arkansas.
The report of the intention of the President to appoint
Colonel Healt to that post, as Major General, excited a
good deal of comment and feeling some days since. But
the report has since quieted down, and it was stated on
pretty good authority that the President had abandoned
the idea of this appointment, if he had ever entertained
it.

The rumor that Price was to be ranked by a young Confederate officer just promoted, travelled on the wings of the wind 19 at leasts of the West, and, judging from

the papers received at this office, excited one universal burst of disapprobation. The popularity of Price is not exceeded by that of any general in the Confederate service. No one of them has achieved so much renown with means such as he had. He placed himself upon the ide of revolutionary enthusiasm of his people, and led them on to victory with a courage and sagacity that hat ranked him amongst the most distinguished and most popular of military men in the South. Especially is this the case in the West, and the temper of the public sentiment there upon the rumor that he was to be superseded was altogether unmistakable.

It is understood that there was some rivalry and discord between Price and McCulloch, and that it was deemed the best way to quiet their troubles to appoint an officer superior to them both. But even in adopting that course it is generally contended that the selection of an old and distinguished general would have saved both the rival generals somewhat of that mortification that would be inflicted by placing over them a young officer not yet greatly experienced, however accomplished he might be.

Colonel Heth is an officer of decided merit. He is a man of true courage and honor, and it is in no unkind spirit to him, evidently, that public sentiment has been so averse to his superseding or ranking the brave and successful Gen. Price. The regret has been to be forced to object to the appointment of an officer against whom so little could be said, indeed, ones on such respected wherever he was known. The regret was that so promising an officer should, upon his promotion to so high a position, be forced to incur a sort of public aversion for superseding the man, at this time one of the greatest of the public favorites.

The rumor that this appointment is to be made is again circulated on the streets, with what truth we are unable to say. But we trust that the matter of the trouble of the commands in Missouri and Arkansas may yet be arranged to the satisfaction of the brave people out there, and w

PROCEEDINGS OF CONGRESS.

PROCEEDINGS OF CONGRESS.

ALMISSION OF KENTUCKY—CONFEDERATE STATES NAYX—THE WAR DEFARTMENT, &C.
[From the Richmond Examiner, Dec. II.]
We have obtained copies of a number of bills passed by
Congress, in secret session, and returned approved by
the President. We referred yesterday to the fact, we
had ascertained, of the passage of a bill to admit Kentacky into the confederacy. The following is a copy of
the bill, as returned with the approval of the President:—
AN ACT FOR THE ADMISSION OF THE STATE OF KENTUCKY INTO
THE CONFEDERATE STATES OF AMERICA, AS A MERICA,
THERROY.

SECTION 1. The Congress of the Confederate States of
America do enact, that the State of Kentucky be, and is
hereby admitted a member of the Confederate States of
America on an equal footing with the other States of the
confederacy.

America on an equal footing with the other States of the confederacy.

A bill was returned yesterday, with the approval of the President, looking to an increase of our naval force for the protection of the sea-coast. We amove a copy of the bill.—

AN ACT TO ACTROBUZE THE ENLISTMENT OF ADDITIONAL SEAMEN. The Congress of the Confederate States of America do enact, that the President be authorized to enlist for the war any additional number of seamen, not to exceed two thousand, that the exigencies of the naval service and the defence of the sea coast and of rivers and harbors, may, in his judgment be necessary.

The following bills have also been passed in secret session:—

AN ACT TO AUTHORIZE THE SECRETARY OF WAR TO APPOINT AN

AN ACT TO AUTHORIZE THE SECRETARY OF WAR TO APPOINT AN ASSISTANT.

The Congress of the Confederate States of America do enact, that the Secretary of War be, and he is hereby authorized and empowered to appoint an assistant, who shall be known as the Assistant Secretary of War, who shall perform such duties as may be assigned him by the Secretary, and receive as componisation for his services, three thousand dollars per anam.

AN ACT TO AUTHORIZE THE APPOINTMENT OF CHIEF BUILDER AND PRINCIPAL MUSICIANS TO EMPIRISMENT IN THE FROYENDIAL ARMY. The Congress of the Confederate States of America do enact, that the President be, and he is hereby authorized to appoint a Chief Buyler or Principal Musician, according to corps, to each regiment in the Provisional army.

INTERESTING FROM KENTUCKY AND MISSOURI.

[From the Richmond Examiner, December 11.]

Nashvulle, Rec. 10, 1861.

Governor Johnson, the Provisional Governor of Kentucky, has issued a stirring and eloquent proclamation, calling for twenty companies of volunteers, to ropel the invaders.

tucky, has issued a stirring and eloquent proclamation, calling for twenty companies of volunteers, to ropel the invaders.

The bridge across the Whipporwill creek, on the Memphis Branch Raifroad, has been repaired, and the trains are now running as formerly.

The Bowling Green corrrespondent of the Union and American of this city, dated to day, says that it is understood that General Marshall has issued a proclamation to the people of Kentacky, in which he says that the Heme Guards in the different counties must join him or so prepared to fight him, as he is determined not to leave them in his rear. His physicians in charge of the hospitathere, report a great improvement in the condition of the patients during the last week, which they mainly attribute to the continued effect of good nursing and favorable weather.

noarly deserted, in consequence of the men joint army.

General Price's proclamation is unfavorably commented on by his sympathizers in St. Louis, particularly that part that says there are two hundred millions dollars worth of Northern means in Missouri which cannot be removed, and is regarded as being situated favorably for plunder. The proclamation, however, induces large numbers to join the Confederate ranks.

NEWS FROM KENTUCKY.

[Correspondence of the Richmond Dispatch.]

Contrary, no doubt, to what you might expect from your point of observation, our army will, I presume, go into winter quarters. The rigors of the season furnish a severe argument against any forward movement just at present. I am afraid that our policy is too severely defensive, both here and upon the line of the Potomac. The President's plan to merely repel invasion I have regarded as the correct one, if not carried to that extreme that would seem to grant the enemy a too conscious immunity and security from all intrusion on our part. But occasion has arrived, I think, for change in this policy. Hereto fore we had to cope with the federais at such disadvantages that it would have been the heighth of impolicy to have provoked them by invasion, but now that our resources are sufficient to make us respectable contestants, the attempt of the enemy to divert our forces should be contestanted by our diverting theirs, by resorting to the very means they use to divert ours, namely, invasion, or NEWS FROM KENTUCKY. sources are sumeent to make us respectable contestants, the attempt of the enemy to divert our forces should be counteracted by our diverting theirs, by resorting to the very means they use to divert ours, namely, invasion, or at all events some demenstration of active hostility. The threatening advance of Price and McCulioch against St. Louis, for illustration, has, in some measure, already demonstrated that the policy of attack would greatly relieve Kentucky. The present inert policy is certainly opening the door of invasion very wide to the enemy, without affording any advantage to ourselves, whereas by invaling their territory, or even attacking their lines, we would draw their armies back from our soil to defend their own. My opinion is, that the enemy regard this as too important a point, and have expended too much money in guibeats and floating batteries for the express purpose of taking Columbus, to long defer the attack in carrying out their favorite usian of descending the Mississippi. They say they must have it, and we are all the time adding to the strength and nature of its defences. Reinforcements are arriving daily, and we now have sufficient force here! I think, to repulse the enemy, no matter in what number. I do not expect another engagement, unless a naval one entirely, before next week, as the roads are now too moist for the enemy's artiflery. The Lincoln guiboats, I think may be expected at any moment. I have barely time be force the mail closes to narrate an anecdote too good to be lost. One of our generals had been very frequently applied to with requisitions for Spirituons win Gallics, the abbreviation Spir. vini Gal. only being used, and the general not knowing what was meant, but supposing that the applicants (surgeons, of course), only wanted some kind of medicine, granted every application. He applied to the medical purveyor to know why he had not supplied the army with the Spir. vini Gal., and way so many requisitions for French brandy?" and the purveyor, of I've just found out how

the doctor had his laugh heartily at the cruel expense of the general.

[From the Bowling Green correspondence of the Nash-ville Union, Bec. 4.]

Information of an official character has reached here that General Zolleoffer, with a large force, has retired from Cumberland Gap and is at Burksville, on the north bank of Cumberland river, about one hundred and twenty miles southeast of this place. General George B. Crittenden has assumed command of the remaining forces at Cumberland Gap, numbering, in addition to the late reinforcements, a larger army than that of the late commandant.

forcements, a larger army than that of the late commandant.

The statement as to the whereabouts of General Zollicofler will, it is believed, be found correct, as gontlemen
direct from Barren county report his pickets as having
advanced thirty miles from Banksville.

A reliable citizen of Hardin county, who left Elizabethtown last Saturday, reports the larger portion of General
Buell's army, numbering full thirty thousand men, at
Camp Nevin, near Nolin, where they are making extensive preparations for wintering. The railroad bridge over
Nolin creek, lately destroyed by Southern rights citizens
of Kentucky, and afterwards rebuilt under direction of
General Rousseau, was washed away last Friday, the
creek, owing to the recent heavy rains, having swollen to
an unusual height.

It is reported that 4,000 federalists are at Upton Station, distant about ten miles from Green river, and that
since the destruction of the bridge they are greatly exercised as to how, in the case of an attack, a junction
can be made with their comrades in Nosm and iniquity.

can be made with their comrades in Noise and iniquity.

A gentleman, direct from Meade county, states that the
Lincolnites, with the exception of a few home guards,
have vacated that locality. Hon, C. Reed, ox-member of
the Legislature from Meade county, was arrested a few
days since while endeavoring to make his way to our
lines. Not wishing to be lodged in jail, a proposition
was made to his capters that if he were released \$100
would be given them. The terms were agreed upon, and
Mr. Reed permitted to depart unmolested.
Legislaton in the right direction was taken by the
Council of the provisional government vesterday. In regard to the purchase and sale of Tennessee money. The
act, which is passed, and goes into immediate operation,
provides for the levying of a tax of twenty-five dollars
per week upon all brokers engaged in the thieving business of making a livenihood from the necessities of the
people and times. This landable move will have the desired effect of closing the innumerable moneyed butcher
shops here, and place upon an equality all Southern
moneys, and at the same time raise its value to an approximation of its real worth.

It is understood that the price of pork will be regulated reximation of its real worth.

It is understood that the prize of pork will be regulated y the Council, and fixed at seven dollars and fifty cents is hundred.

or hundred.

THE SKIRMISH AT SOMERSET, KY.
[Correspondence of the Longs life Journal | Southers, Ky., Dec. 7, 1881.
On the 3d Colonel Connell and some of the company office a if the Seventeenth Oho regiment advanced about a rule to find a souther place for the regiment to ensuing the state of the control of the control

take a position. When they had gained the top of a binff this side the ferry a number of shots were fired at the colonel; his horse taking fright sprang from ander him, and came back at lightning speed. A murmur went from the front to the rear of the column that our little colonel was gone. But Captain Rickets, being close by the colonel, and seeing that he was almost in the hands of Zolly's men, sprang from his heres and implored the colonel in the name of God to escape if he could. He mounted and came hurrically but safely to camp, and called on Company F, and said to them that their captain was taken prisoner. The colonel called for twenty men who would go and reacue him. The words had scarcely left his lips when thrice that number offered their services. They had just started when the captain was seen coming across a field waving his sword. Such rejoicing among a regiment of men was never seen before. The captain had saved our colonel and himself also. When all had reported we found that we had six times our number to cope with, consequently nothing short of retreating would save us from being cut to pieces or taken prisoners. In two hours our regiment and Stanard's battery were on the way back to our fortifications, which were twelve long miles distant, but that did not discourage us, and at one o'clock that night we were again on Spring Crock Hill. Yesterday we fell back three miles north of Somersot, where we are yet. This morning the Thirty-fifth Ohio came to our releft. We are expecting an attack to night or in the morning. We have a nice place for a field light. We have no advantage in position. Should a battle take place within two days it will be at great odds. The one my has twice our number. Major Helveti and Captain Prime, of the regular army, were taken prisoners. The robel pickets were hidden behind a house and fired on them—one ball taking effect in the back of the neck of the major, and another in the face of the captain. Both, it is supposed, were wounded rather badly. They were taken majors

A FLAG OF TRUCE PROM THE REBEL GEN. BUCKNER[Correspondence of the Louisville Journal.]

CAMP NEVIN. Dec. 8, 1861.

On the night of the 7th, a captain from the rebel army at Bowling Green came into camp under a flag of truce from General Buckner. He was the bearer of a request from that General to permit his wife and friends to pass through our lines to Louisville with the mortal remains of an infant daughter, which they wished to inter in their family lot in the Louisville conectery. The Captain came up to our lines under an except of ton men and a Licutenaut. He was retained at our outposts until nightfall, and then conveyed to head to headquarters. General Buell was telegraphed to, but he courteously denied the request, and the Captain was excepted beyond the federal lines on the 8th, an hour before daybreak. Under the extraordinary circumstances General Buell's conduct is warmly commended here.

THE KENTUCKY REBELS AT MANNASSAS VOTE TO GO

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THE KENTUCKY REBELS AT MANNASSAS VOTE TO GO HOME.

[Centreville correspondence of the Nashville Courier.]

The statement in my last that we would shortly return to Kentucky was rather premature, I am forced to believe, not withstanding the "very reliable authority upon which I based it, although we all yet have an undefined hope that such will be the case. A few days after General George B. Crittenden was promoted to a Major General a vote of the officers was taken whether or no we would go to Cumberland Gap, provided General Critendan could obtain permission, and of course they all voted to go there or any place clse, provided it was to Kentucky. What they result of this will be has not transpired; but I am inclined to the belief that when the board that is reorganizing the army, and classing the regiments according to their State, reaches us they will allow us to go back, as there are no more exiles here except the Maryland boys.

GEN. BRECKINKIDGE'S LATE EXPEDITIONS.

[Bowling Green or Cerrespondence Nashville Courier, Dec. 2.]

A correspondent of a Nashville paper, writing from Bowling Green on the 2d, gives the following account of John C. Breckinridge's recent exploits.—

Our regiment (the Second), together with the Third and Fourth Kentucky, the First Kentucky cavalry, and Lyon's arillery, under command of Brigalier General Breckinridge, left our camp at this place on Sunday, the 17th ult., for the purpose of meeting the Yankees, who, it was reported, had crossed the river at Rochester, Butler county, and were advancing on Russelville, under the traitor Critenden. In consequence of the roads being very bad, almost impressed through Shakertown, where live the "gentlement of peace," who, surrounded by every unary of the gentlement that are daily transpiring around them, but, with the true spirit of their ancestors, purse daily avocations as if nothing had transpired, and alwas yet peace. These good people will neither sell nor give to

success.

Wednesday we passed through Russeliville, which, like Bowling Green, is filled with refugees, who have been compelled to fee from their homes in Northern Kehtucky. After hard walking over a rough and middy road, we pitched our tents at Rochester on Sunday evening and found, as we might have expected, that the Yankees had recrossed the river and fled, feating, I suppose, that "Buckner's Indians" were after them, and that they would spring upon and scalp them ere they could fly the country.

Country.

Butier county is almost solely inhabited by Lincolnites, and, indeed, it seems a fitting place for such creatures. Where you find an educated and reading man, in mine cases out of ten he is Southern in sentiment, but dare not average his or the country of the countr

cases out of ten he is Southern in soutiment, but dare not express himself.

THE DISMEMBERMENT OF VIRGINIA.

[From the Richmond Dispatch, Dec. II.]

There can be no Virginia unless it include both fastern and western Virginia. Cameron, the excerable Secretary of War of the Lincoln despotism, has presented to the service Congress of that foothsome tyranua a map in which Eastern Virginia is attached to Maryland, and Virginia beyond the mountains is traced out as the only Virginia that is to exist hereafter. Cameron's definition of our boundaries of course cannot prevail, unless we of the South are subjugated. The decisive battles, however, must be fought in Virginia.

We may therefore say, that if we cannot hold Western Virginia we cannot hold fastern Virginia, and if we cannot hold Virginia we can hardly defend the South, deciared to us a few days since that if the Southnern confederacy did not maintain its power over Western Virginia, Western Virginia would conquer Eastern Virginia. We consider the remark at least striking.

The importance of taking and holding Northwestern Virginia cannot be over estimated. As it is needless to stop to inquire now how it has been lost, it is only practical to inquire now we are to redeem the State authority in that part of Virginia.

Energetic, shrewd and experienced generals are indispensable to the achievement. They must be sustained by sufficient and well disciplined troops, and they must have every possible facility of transportation and proper supplies. There is no way so well calculated to ensure these as the extension of the railroads of the James and Kanawha Valleys, and the improvement of the roads which will be used by our troops. Measures ought to be taken at once to extend the Central road to Covington. The embankment is roady—the rails only are walked. They are now in possession of the company, and only wan the transportation to the point where they are to be seed. But the devertiment has so menopolized the trains that the road has not the means to convey them to

that the roat has not the means to convey them to that point.

The Covington and Ohlo Bailroad is ready to receive its superstructure nearly the entire distance from Covington to the White Sulpher Soriaus. If the Confectate government would combine with the State, the road could, in a few nouths, be unished to the Springs.

If these two roads were finished to the Springs, the Western army would derive incalculable advantages therefrom. It could move quicker; its supplies could be placed with greater case and in large abundance at a proper depot near the principal field of operations. The Alleghanies would be passed by railroad, and the most serious difficulties in the movements of an army and its supplies avoided.

This subject is one that deserves the most serious attention of Congress and our State Legislature. We hope they will take it up promptly and act decidedly and harmonionsly. Western Virginia is indispensable to Eastern Virginia and the confederacy Apart from political considerations, upon the score of the mineral wealth of that part of the State, it is of the vastest importance to the South. The coal and iron deposits are of illimitable extent, and if we had not lost the saft mines—most ridentiously lost them—we would not feel the want of this article of prime necessity now.

If the Western campaign is to be pressed carnestly, these roads ought to be attended to at once. There is no time for delay.

A RESORT TO DRAFTING BECOMING NE-

A RESORT TO DRAFTING BECOMING NECESSARY.

[From the Richmond Examiner, Dec. 11.]

The Congress of the Confederate States seems to be awakened to the great public necessity of forming an army of regularly organized and veteran troops. The large bounty which it now offers for long enlistments, and the inducements which it holds out to the twelve months volunteers to engage themselves for a service of three years, will go far towards procuring the material of a substantial and disciplined army. We fear, however, that it will be found, before this war is ended, that all plans for raising good troops, except that practiced and relied on by all the military nations of the world in this and in past ages, will be found to be only expensive and uncertain makeshifts. England and Anglo-Saxon America, among the sturdiest but certainly, also, among the most unmilitary nations of the whole earth, alone employ the system of voluntary enlistment in the formation of their armies. All other fighting races and warlike governments have created, and now create, their armies by conscription or draft. That alone falls equally on all parts of the population: that alone is sure to bring forth the material that war needs; that alone gives the host which the government can use as a workman his tool of stell. Whether this war will continue long enough to force the Confederate States over the prejudices of race to this simple and effective measure, may be doubted; but we feel assured that before another year of it is ended, that government, people and army, will have all come to the conclusion that the creation of inferior offecers, if not of men, must be placed under the absolute control of the Executive of the contestency. In this one thing is the radical difference between the organizations called militia, colunteers and regulars. The privates of the first are the best men of the contestency. In this one thing is the radical difference between the organizations called militia, robusters and regulars. The privates of the see thing is t gers, hardships and discomfort of war

SISTEM OF BOUNTIES AND FURLOUGHS
FOR OUR ARMY.

[From the Richmond Examiner, Dec. 11.]
We learn that a bill has been passed by Congress, in secret session, or will be passed by that body to-day, granting a boanty of \$2\text{iy}\$ dollars to all privates and non-commissioned officers in the provisional army who shall so we exhibite the provisional army to be paid at

the expiration of the first term of service to those reen-listing for the next two ensuing years.

The bill also provides that sixty days' furloughs, with transportation home and back, shall be granted to the twelve months' men who shall entit for the next two en-suing years; or, in lies of a furlough, the commutation value in money of the transportation shall be paid to each private or non-commissioned officer who may elect to re-estre it.

private or non-commissioned officer who may elect to receive it.

Both provisions of the bill, it is understood, that, with
respect to bounties and that with respect to furloughs,
are designed to encourage and facilitate the re-enlistment
of the twelve months' men.

It is understood, as far as we have ascertained the
enactments of the bill, that the troops revolunteering or
re-enlisting shall, at the expiration of their present term
of service, have the power to re-organize themselves into
companies, and elect their company officers, and said
companies shall have the power to organize themselves
into battalions or regiments, and elect their field officers;
and after the first election all vacancies shall be filled by
promotion from the company, battalion or regiment in
which such vacancies may occur.

REPORTED CAPTURE OF YANKEES. REPORTED CAPTURE OF YANKEES.

From the Richmond Dispatch, Dec. 11.

Passengers who arrived vesterday from Manaesas broughts a report that Colonel Ashby's command had sharp skirmish with a foraging party of the enemy, on Sunday last, and killed fifteen, took eighty prisoners, and ca, tured twenty wagon loads well filled with plunder. Our loss is reported at five killed. We have no means of ascertaining whether the story is correct or otherwise, but it seemed to be generally believed last evening.

CONFISCATIONS IN VIRGINIA. CONFISCATIONS IN VIRGINIA.

Late Richmond papers state that the Cashier of the Farmers' Bank at Richmond gives notice that the payment of \$24,548 01, which the bank holds as the property of captain R. H. Ramsey, has been "onjoined" by the District Court of the Confederate States, as being liable to sequestration. The Confederate States Court, in Richmond, have confiscated \$15,000 in the hands of the bankers Furced!, in that city, the property of Ashmeed et als., of Philadelphia.

THE DEFENCES OF NEW ORLEANS.

THE DEFENCES OF NEW ORLEANS.

The following extract from a late English paper brought by the Hassa to this port, is a fair sample of the many exaggerated statements manufactured for foreign consumption. Of course, the people in the States will recognise the subjoined statement as a tissue of falsehoods:

NEW ORLEANS, Oct. 25, 1861.

The Mississippi is fortified so as to be impassable for any bostile fact or fortilla. Forts Jackson and St. Philip are armed with 170 heavy guns (6s pounders, rified by Eashley Britten, and received from England). The navigation of the river is stopped by a dam at about a quarter of a mile from the above forts. No flotilia on earth could force that dam in less than two hours, during which time it would be within short and cross range of 170 guns of the largest caitbre, many of which would be served with red hot shot, numerous furnaces for which have been erected in every fort and at every battery. In a day or two we shall have ready two iron cased floating batteries. Their plates are 4½ inches thick, of the best hammered iron, received from England and France. Each iron cased battery will mount twenty 68 pounders, placed iron days the state of the control of the control of the strike the enemy's huil between wind and water. We have an abundant supply of incendiary shells, cupola furnaces for molten iron, Congreve rockets, and fire ships. Between New Orleans and the forts there is a constant succession of earthworks. At the plain of Chalmette, near Janin's property, there are redoubts armed with rifled cannon which have been the forth there is a constant succession of earthworks. At the plain of Chalmette, near Janin's property, there are redoubts armed with rifled cannon which have been count to be effective at five miles range. A ditch thirty feet wide and twenty feet deep extends from the Mississiphi to La Cyprienne. In forts 8t. Philip and Jackson there are 3,000 men, of whom a goodly portion are experienced artillerymen and gunners who have served in the navy. At New Orleans its

THE WAR ON THE SEACOAST. THE QUESTION OF CONSULAR EXEMPTION FROM MILI-TARY DUTY.

[Correspondence of the Richmond Examiner.]

TARY DUTY.

[Correspondence of the Richmond Examiner.]

Charlesson, S. C., Dec. 6, 1861.

All is very quiet here. The prompt and universal obedience to the military order, caling out the volunteers and militia of the city, has quite stript the business portion of Charleston of its wonted life. Very many of the wholesale and retail stores are closed, and those which are not are managed either by persons who have claimed exemption from militia service, under the certificate of some foreign citizenship, attested by some one of the consuls resident here, or by those who, too old or toe young to come within the provisions of the militial law, are carolied in the "regiment of reserves." This regiment, by the way, is quite a feature in the military establishment of Charleston. It consists of eight companies, averaging, perhaps, ninety men each, all admirably armed, equipped and drilled. The whole regiment (excepting the dank companies, which are made up of youths), is composed of what may be termed the "solid men" of our city, many of them with gray locks, but still bleat with statwart frames, and all imbried with that spirit of stern and fixed resolution, which, in mature years, takes the place of the impulsive arder of the young volunteer. The uniform is simple and dignified, consisting of a black slouch hat, bearing on the side a cockade or palmetto leaf, and citizons' dress of black or other dark color, to which the cross belis and metal equipments give a sufficiently military sir. It is really an imposing sight to see this line body of men, generally of large and well developed physique, drawn up upon the Citadel green, which is the Place d'Armes of Charleston. The Reserves are an organization intended chiefly for the defence of the city proper, and to maintain order in the absence of the younger volunteer regiments. They drill four or five times every week, and have attained a very high degree of efficiency. All the other city troops are in camp, and ready to do their duty.

I have alluded to the fact that many

of late been a matter of considerable comment and discussion here—to wit: the right of the foreign consuls to exercise their official functions in a port of the Confederale States, under the exequator of the United States government. A day or two ago a resolution of inquiry on this very subject was introduced into the State Legislature, now in session at Columbia.

In two cases—those by the French and Spanish consuls—the circumstances under which the consular duties are fulfilled are rather peculiar. During the short period in which South Carolina, by her secossion, stood separated from all her late sister States—South as well as North—of the federal Union, some occasion arcse rendering necessary certain communications between the State authorities and the Spanish consulate. Senor Moncada, who fills that position, accordingly received from the government an official letter incidentally recognizing his ensular authority. Although this letter was not a formal exequator, yet, in its effect, it may be said to be equivalent to one. The pesition of the French Cansul, M. de St. Andre, is even more singular. He was appointed late in the spring to succeed M. Belligny, who was withdrawn from this country at his own request, on account, I believe, of bad health. When the new appointee reached New York communication between the North and the South through Virginia had already been broken off. He lest no time, however, in reaching Charleston by the way of Louisville, and has never paid any official visit either to Washington or Richmond. He now assumes and exercises still the functions and privileges of the Consul of France absolutely without any exequatur either from the Confederate or United States government. No doubt his policy in this regard is strictly in accordance with instructions of the French Emperor, nor is it easy to see how be could have acted otherwise; since France, as yet, has no official cognizance of the existence of the Southern confederacy, while to have come to reside in Charleston with an exequatur un

Charleston with an exequator unser the signature of the babon, "and that obtained after the war had actually begun, would have been, to say the least, a step of doubtful policy.

But both of these are anomalous causes. All the other foreign consuls here claim their privileges solely under their old exequators from the Executive of the United States. I understand that they consider this course warranted by a number of good precedents, among which is preminently cited the case of the consuls at Narles during the late revelution in Italy, who remained there under the authority of exequator which they had received from the government which a de facto government had completely overthrown and succeded. As a sign of the times, it may be worth mentioning that several of the consult here, including the French and Spanish, have lately effected large flagstaffs over their residences—a mark of vede, along for their respective governments, which, until now, the had forgotten to show.

General Pemberton arr, and here yesterday. I hear that he thinks Charleston the enast place to defend of all the cities on our Atlantic seaboard.

A BRITISH MAN-OF-WAR OFF CHARLESTON. A BRITISH MAN-OF-WAR OFF CHARLESTON,
SOUTH CAROLINA.

[From the Charleston Courier, of December 9.]
The English steam ship-of-war Racer, of eleven guns,
Captain Algernon Lyons, arrived off this harbor on Friday atternoon last. She left New York on Tuesday, and
has brought despatches to her Britannic Majesty's Consul.
The latter visited her on Saturday morning in the steamer
Carolina, and the Racer soon after left for Port Royal,
from which place she is expected to return this day and
will soon after sail for New York.

FINANCIAL EMBARRASSMENT AT THE

The Richmond Dispatch of the 5th says:—

1. Let Congress doctare, by solemn acts, that whoever shall ask or receive a per cent in consideration of the exchange of one sort of money for another, whether it shall be specie for paper money or one sort of paper money for another, shall be guilty of treason and punished with death.

tor another, shall be guilty of treason and punished with death.

2. Let it be instantly provided that each State shall receive, at its own Treasury, at par, any paper money which may be lawfully issued by any bank, corporation or individual within its jurisdiction.

3. Let it be provided that any such money shall be received at par in payment of all taxes and dues to the Confederac States Treasury.

4. Authorize the Treasury Department to use the public funds and securities for the redemption of any paper money in the Confederate States.

5. Require each bank in the confederacy to redeem the bills of every other bank. Let Congress be warned, and wake up to the flumental perils which beset us. The banks are the allies of Lincolu.

A FINANCIAL BULL

At a public meeting recently hild in Nashville, Tenn., the following brilliant resolution was adopted.—
Resolved, That we recommend that by law a tax be levied upon a gallon of spiritions liquors, distilled from wheat, corn, rys or putabos, that shall be sufficient to

probibit the same during the present war blockade, the proceeds thereof to be applied to the support of families with us of soldiers on the tented field.

A TRAITOR MARYLAND SENATOR.

In the Maryland Logiciature now in session at Annapolis, on the 12th inst., a resolution was introduced geolaring the seat of Hon. Coleman Yellott, Senator from Baltimore, vacant, on the ground that during three successive sessions of this bedy absented himself from his seat therein, without assigning any reason therefor; and whereas, it is a matter of public notoriety, established also by testimony before the Committee on Judicial Proceedings, that the said Senator from Baltimore city has gone to Virginia and has no intention of resuming his seat in the Senate; and whereas, it is right and proper in these times of public peril the large and populous city of Baltimore should be represented here; and whereas, the constitution of Maryland provides that in the event of the removal of a Senator from the county or city for which he is elected, the President of the Senate shall issue his warrant for the election of another person in his place; therefore, &c.

Quite an animated discussion than ensued between several of the members on the presumble and resolutions. The vote was taken and the resolution declaring the seat vacant was passed. A TRAITOR MARYLAND SENATOR.

THE SOUTHERN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH. The Presbyterian church of the South, since its severance from that of the United States, have, after suitable consideration and discussion, appointed Commissioners to meet at Augusta, Ga., on next Wednesday, for the purpose of organizing a new Assembly—a General Assembly of the Presbyterian church in the Confederate States of America, thus forming practically, as well as religiously, a new and powerful boud of union for the Southern States.

THE MOCK HEROES OF GREAT BETHEL.

[From the Raleigh (N. C.) Register.]

Its term of enlistment (six months) having expired, the giorlous Frist regiment of North Carolina Volunteers was mustered out of the service at Weldon on Thursday last. The companies from the eastern part of the Statu sought their homes by the way of the Witmington and Weldon Raliroad, and those from the centre and west, four in number, arrived here on Wednesday morning. Considering what they have gone through, the men looked remarkably well. remarkably well.

It is said that on parting with the regiment General
Magruder shed tears copiously. It is believed that a large
majority of the men will re-enlist.

A REBEL SOLDIER SHOT. Private James A. Miller has been shot, near Winches ter, Va., in pursuance of a sentence of a court martial for attempting the life of Captain Henderson, of the Jefferson Cavalry. He was shot by a file of men fron Captain H.'s company.

THE COWARDLY DESPOTISM AT WASHING-TON.

[From the Richmond Whig, December 3.]

Through the instrumentality of one of Sward's cond dential agents, we have come in possession of the following letter, addressed by a brave and noble woman, to Lincoln's wirder. We are given to understand that the perusal of it was not without visible effect upon that impersonation for all human villany. The twitchings of the muscles, and his agitated manner betrayed, not perhaps, any computetion, but a sonse of personal insecurity at the control of the cruel and saturdly tyranny which the Yankee government has established at Washington. Russell, in one of his letters to the London Times, mentions the expedient of "arrest by telegraph," which has been introduced by Seward, as something new and apalling, and oristripping all the ingenious contrivances of all the despotisms that over existed. But the incarceration and torture of heipless woman, and the outrages heaped upon them, as detailed in this letter, will more shock manly natures, and stamp the Lincoln dynasty every where with the state of the control o

dustry, which this change has not reached, and the doil, plodding, methodical halists of the poor can never be resumed.

You have held me, sir, to a man's accountability, and I therefore claim the right to speak on subjects usually considered beyond a woman's ken, and which you may class as 'errors of opinion.' I offer no exe as for this long digression, as a three menths' imprisonment, without formula of law, gives me authority for occupying even the precious moments of a Secretary of State. My object is to call your attention to the fact that, during this long imprisonment, I am yet ignorant of the causes of my arrest; that my bouse has been selzed and converted into a prison by the government; that the valuable furniture it contained has been abused and destroyed; that during some period of my imprisonment in have suffored greatly for want of proper and sufficient have suffored greatly for want of proper and sufficient food. Also, I have to complain that, more recently, a woman of bad character, recognized as having been seen on the streets of Chicago as such by several of the guard, calling herself Mrs. Onderdonk, was placed here in my house, in a room adjoining mine.

In making this exposition, I have no object of appeal to your sympathies. If the justice of my complaint, and a decent regard for the world's opinion do not move you. I should but waste time to claim your attention on any other score.

I may, however, recall to your mind, that but a little while since, you were quite as much proceribed by public sentiment here for the opinions and principles you held, as I am now for mine.

I could easily have escaped arrest, having had timely warring. I thought it possible that your statesmanship hight preclamation of weakhest to the

sentiment here for the opinions and principles you held, as I am now for mine.

I could easily have escaped arrest, having had timely wiffing. I thought it possible that your sistemanship high present and it proclamation of weakness to the world, as even the fragin. Of nonce great government turning its arms against the breast of women and children. You have the power, sir, and may still further abuse it. You may prostrate the physical strength, by confinement in close rooms, and insufficient food—you may subject me to harshor, ruder treatment than I have already received, but you cannot imprison the soul. Every cause worthy of success has had its martyrs. The words of the heroine Corday are applicable here: "Cest is crimagin fail to have at one pat lechafoude." My sufferings will afford a significant lesson to the women of the South, that sex or condition is no bulwark against the surging billows of the "irrepressible conflict."

The "from heel of power" may keep down, but it cannot crush out, the spirit of resistance of a people arms for the defence of their rights; and I tell you now, sirthat you are standing over a crater whose smothered free in a moment may burst forth.

It is your boast that thirty-three bristling fortifications now surround Washington. The fortifications of Paris did not protect Louis Philippe when his hour had come. In conclusion, I respectfully ask your attention to this my protest, and have the honor to be, &c., &c., &c.

BURNING THE BRIDGE ON THE MEMPHIS BRANCH RAILROAD—REBEL SOLDIERS CAPTURED.

[From the Nashville Courier, Dec. 7]
On Wednesday night a detachment of the enemy's cavalry made a dash for the Memphis Branch railroad and succeeded in burning a portion of the Whipporwill bridge, taking eleven prisoners of the guard stationed there. Though wholly unaccompanied with danger, this is the most brilliant exploit of the war in Kentucky. And though the damage done is trifling, and has been repaired ere this, the injury to the Southern cause is serious out of all proportion to the loss sustained. This movement of the federal shouts will excite a feeling of measuress and apprehension in the country, disconraging Southern men and encouraging the few Lincolnites in this section. And there is no excuse for it. Not a federal

scout should be allowed to remain an hour on this side of Green river. We have nearly five thousand cavalry here, dying in their tests for want of exercise and employ ment, and it is a shame that the onemy's pickets are permitted to ravage the country on our flanks and in our rear with perfect impunity. And yet they might without risk plunier the farm houses of our friends within seven miles of Bowling Green, instead of burning bridges within seven miles of Russellville. Fortunately the enemy did not know how entirely unprotected the country was, and made off before the bridge was seriously injured and before the Memphis train came down, which they might have captured.

SKIRMISH IN WEAKLEY COUNTY, TENN.

[From the Louisville Journal, Dec. 13.]

We have an interesting letter from Paducah, Ky., from which we learn that there is a report that the Unionists of Weakley county, Fann, had a light with the Soossion ist a few days ago, on the occasion of the drafting of soldiers at Dresden, and that about fifteen were killed. It is also said that Colonel Rogers was concentrating the Union men, who are twelve or diffeen hundred strong, who intend fighting their way out. About eighty Tonnessee refugees arrived at Paducah on the night of the 9th. The whole line of Tonnessee is guarded by pickets to prevent their leaving the State, but they are eluded by taking to the woods until they get under the protecting arms of the troops at Paducah.

NEW ORLEANS MARKETS.

A New Orleans paper of the 3d test has the following report of market prices current —Cotton—We did not hear of a sale to-day. Stock as before, 11,907 bales. Sugar—The sales to-day comprised 750 hhds. at 2c. a 214c. for common to good common, 23/c. a 3/c. for fair to felly fair, 4c. a 5c. for prime to choice, and 7c. for choice white clarited, showing no change in prices. The supply was copious and the demand only moderate. Molasses—With a liberal supply, holders met the demand freely at casisor prices, the sales comprising 3,000 bbs. at 15c. for fermenting, and at 16c. a 16/5c. a 17c. for prime to choice, and 800 half bbls. at 18c. a 21c. for prime to choice, Tobacco—25 hhds., samitted and refused, sold at 53/c. Prices firm. Stock as before, 15,472 hids. Flour—The only sales reported was 150 bbls. extra at \$11 50. Superfine soils at \$10 a \$10 25. Wheat—200 sacks rod sold at \$17 Corn—The sales comprised 200 sacks white, is poor order, at 70c., and 2,000 prime white at 75c. Bread-150 sacks sold at \$1 90. and 100 at \$2 per 100 lbs. Port—Mess continues to retail slowly at \$25. Whiskey—Rectified rotails at \$1 10 a \$1 15. NEW ORLEANS MARKETS.

## FINANCIAL AND COMMERCIAL.

SUNDAY, Dec. 15, 1861. The imports for last week, for the first time for many months, show an increase over those of the corresponding week of last year. The heaviest item of import was guns, of which \$251,000 worth were received; after this, tea, coffee, sugar, hides and hemp were the leading articles. It will not do for our imports to increase at present, and, if they show a tendency to do so, Congress should raise the duties on all articles of luxury which can be dispensed with by our people. The exports of produce continue very large, and we understand that the receipts of produce by rail are so large that there is no reason to apprehend any falling of in the export movement at present. The following are the official tables for the week and since Janu

ary 1:-For the Week. 1859. 1800. 1861.
Dry goods........ \$487,045 989,917 704,158
General merchandise. 2,313,445 1,347,068 1,836,852 Total for the week. \$2,800,490 2,316,985 2,541,010 Previously reported. 224,648,227 216,641,372 116,652,561

Since January 1. \$227,448,717 218,958,337 119,193,571 EXPORTS OF PRODUCE AND MERCHANDES: 1869. 1860. 1860. 1860. 91.4413 8.404,955 Previously reported., 61,912,723 92,537,716 124,517.278 Since January 1. \$63,579,692 94,685,129 127,922,228 EXPORTS OF SPECIE. 1859. 1860.

For the week..... \$673,223 71,000 None.
Proviously reported. 63,305,930 42,503,737 3,256,885 Since January 1...\$63,979,153 42,574,737 3,256,885 The banks will probably show a marked decrease in loans, specie and deposits to-morrow. The mercantile discount line continues to run down; hence, though the Sub-Treasury has not reimbursed the banks anything for the past week, the loans, and correspondingly the deposits, must show a falling off. For some reason or other, only known to the officials of the Treasury Department at Washington, the books have been closed for some days for popular subscriptions to the national loan. Hence the banks are not being relieved of any portion of their subscriptions. This is one of the mysteries of the day which the public cannot presume to fathom. A general notion prevails to the effect that it is desirable that the public should not only be permitted, but should, by every possible means, be induced. to lend money to government at the present crisis. For more than a week persons seek ing to lend, money to government have been informed that they could not do so, as the books were closed. There are doubtless good reasons for this singular decision, and we forbear further comment. The banks have paid into the Sub-Treasury over four millions of dollars during the week, and it is expected that they will show a falling off in specie of over a million Last Monday the specie average was \$42,318,610 and the loans average \$159,793,953. If there has been any hoarding or creating of special deposits by foreign houses, the falling off in specie will be greater than is expected. We hardly look for any. thing of the kind as yet, however. The policy the Treasury Department has not been sufficiently defined to lead to public action. Our leading houses will doubtless await a report, or at least au expression of opinion, from the Committee of Ways and Means, before they take measures to protect themselves against the consequences of a general suspension of specie payments. However obvious the future may be, its event is awaited with calm

ness and deliberation on all sides. Money is abundant. Call loans are quoted 6 per cent in the street, but money can be borrowed at lower rates on good collateral. First class paper is rarely seen outside of bank. Among the brokers it is current at 5 a 6. Names which have been passed with difficulty at very high rates of interest are now negotiable at 7 a 8 per cent. Jobbers' paper, based on Southern indebtedness, has derived an increase of value from the recommendations in the Message and documents, referring to the collection of debts due by Southern debtors to Northern creditors. It is clear enough that the South ern merchants who have fancied that they were going to enrich themselves at the cost of their Northern correspondents are going to be brought to a sharp reckoning, sooner or later. The case of Bowen, Holmes & Co., at Alexandria, will eventually prove a precedent which will probably acquire

some notoriety hereafter.

Foreign exchange closed yesterday at 109% a 110 for bankers' bills on London. There is no de mand for bills from the importing trade; but, at the same time, the supply of mercantile exchange is small, and bankers are of course unwilling to draw, except at rates at which they are sure of being able to cover. It is very desirable that a specie shipment should be made during the present week. A shipment of a quarter of a million in gold would probably cause a sharp reaction in the exchange market, and would demonstrate the unreasonableness of the alarm which has been caused by the recent advance in bills. Nothing is more certain than that the state of our foreign trade does not justify specie shipments at the present time. The balance of trade is in our favor, and we are importing weekly less than we export.

At the same time it is well that this bugbear of specie shipments should be squarely grappled with and fairly tested. We have in country a great deal more gold than we need, and should be none the worse off if we parted with ten or twenty millions to Europe. We cannot ship so much as this or anything like it, because we do not owe anything to the other side; but, as there has been so much bear talk about a specie drain, it is to be hoped that it will begin, and its effects may be actually tested. At the same time, Congres, must not lose sight of the necessity of keeping down our imports to the lowest possible figure. All reasonable free traders are agreed upon the necessity of abandoning the theory of free trade during the war, and of excluding from our markets all foreign manufactures which can be dis discouraging pens I with. A large increase in the duties on Not a fasteral silk goods, ribbons, laces, jewelry, fine wines, &c. pens I with. A large increase in the duties on